

REPORT

CD NO.

25X1

DATE DISTR. 1 December 1955

NO. OF PAGES 1

NO. OF ENCLS.

25X1

SUPPLEMENT TO
REPORT NO.

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This is UNEVALUATED Information

It was learned that some privately owned restaurants were to be changed into HO Betriebe on the grounds of non-payment of taxes. The owners of these restaurants had fled to the Federal Republic when GDR authorities had found out that for several years they had bought beer from breweries without paying tax for it. On the understanding that they would be immune from criminal prosecution and would not have to make up for the unpaid taxes, they had returned to the GDR. In mid-July 1955, these owners received tax assessment notes saying that they had to pay 25,000 DM East taxes each and that they would be released from paying their tax debts if they took upon themselves to pay 20 % of this amount in cash within two weeks. This meant that for them the only way out was to give up their restaurants, and that the way was now open for a change of these enterprises to HO restaurants.

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